

**The Challenges of Safeguarding the
Safeguarded Heritage: Political, economic and
ownership issues in the negotiation for the
digitization of Ethiopian ICH film materials
archived in Hungary**

Tsehay Hailemariam

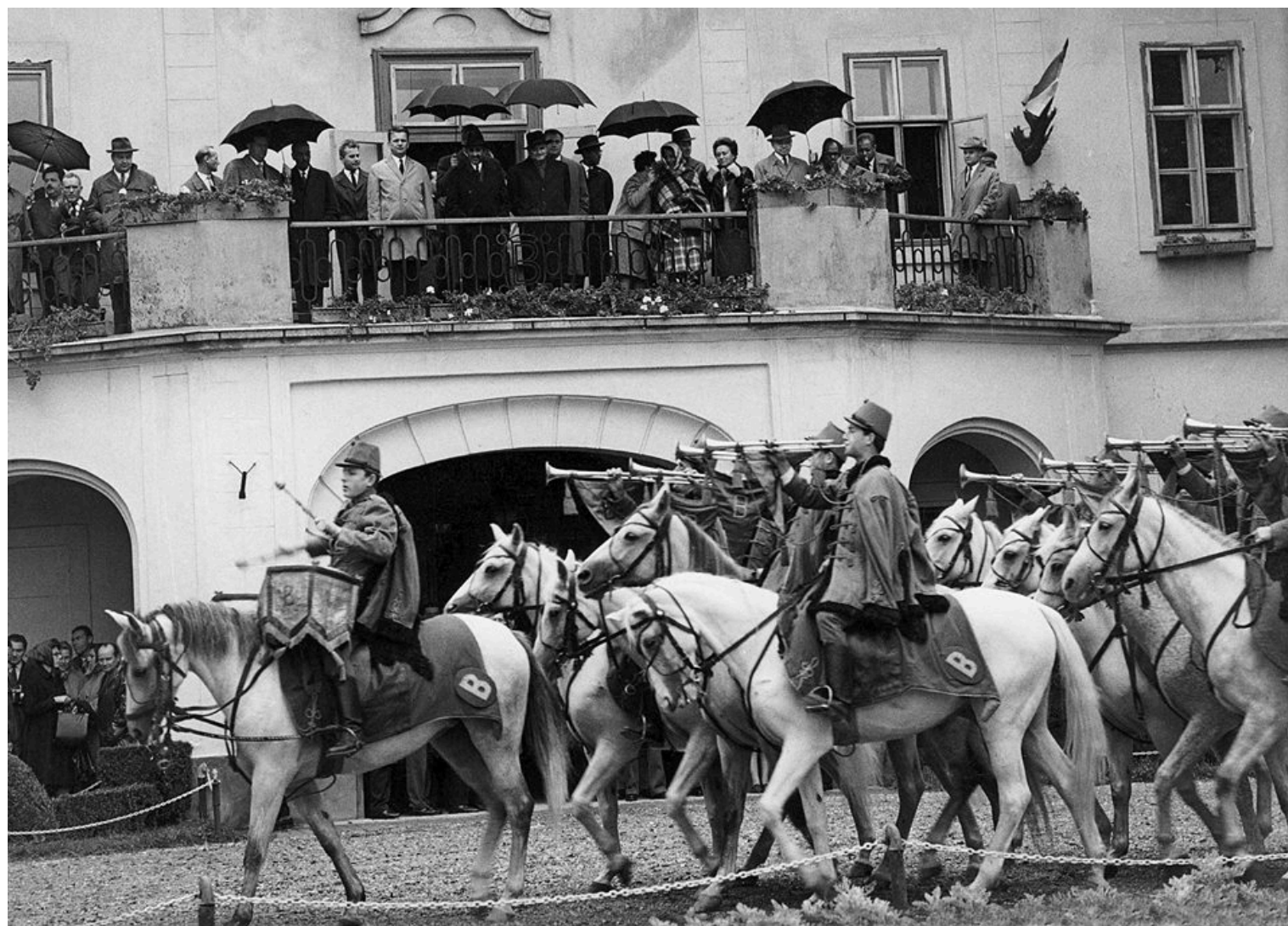
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Background

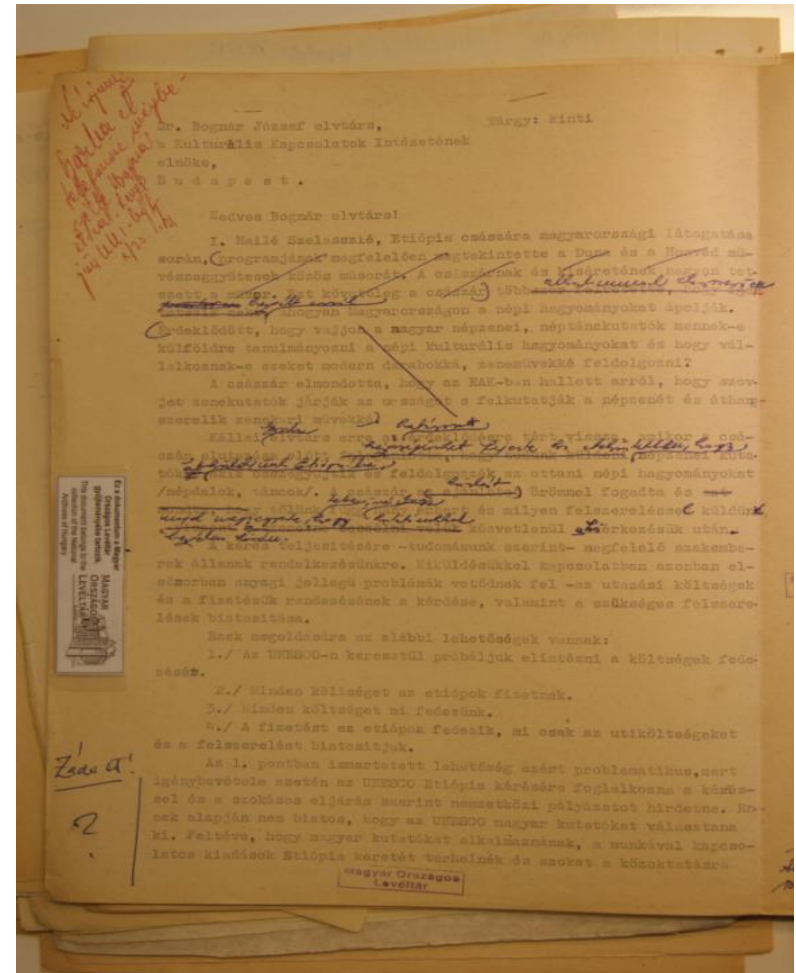
A 1964 diplomatic letter exchanged between Hungary and Ethiopia states that these film materials were recorded following Emperor Haile Selassie's visit to Hungary for a 3 day State visit.







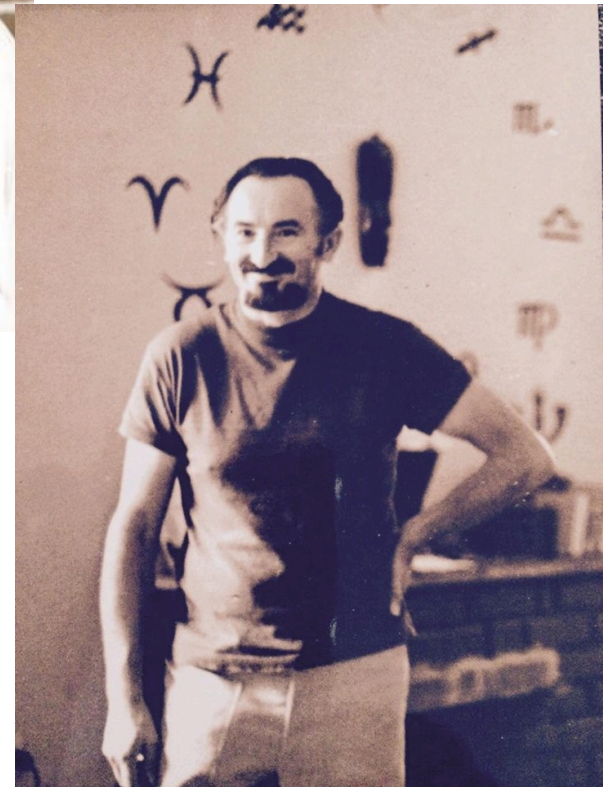
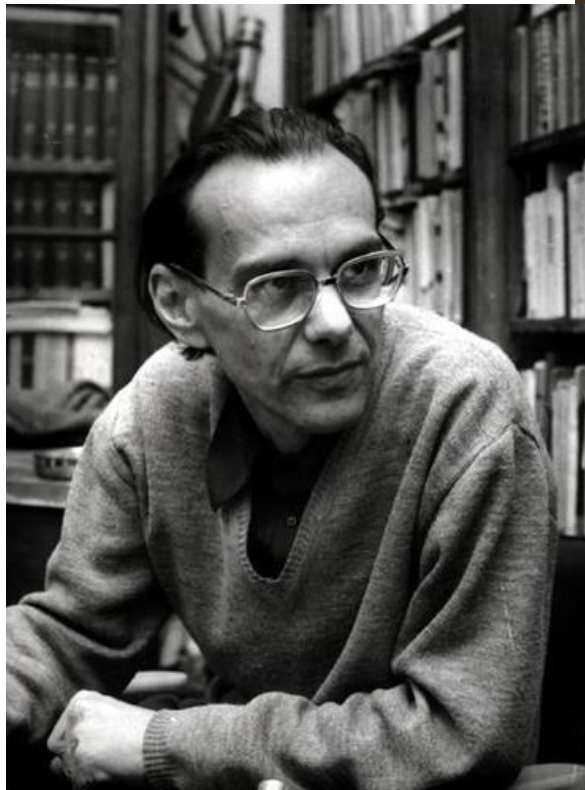


[illegible]

The Hungarian leaders then responded to his definite interest before the emperor's leaving and proposed him that they could send Hungarian folk music and dance researchers to Ethiopia to study and collect the local folk traditions.



The researchers



What did they document?

3000-meter film (45-50 hours), 1500 photographs and 10 hours of sound recordings which among these are classic films of ICH such as Ashenda, Meskel, Ephepany , Erecha, Fiche chembelala and other small and large traditional festivities and events that are not anymore in practice in Today's Ethiopia.

The film materials are collected from a total of eight Ethiopian provinces (Shoa, Wollo, Tigre (Tigray), Begemder, Gojjam, Wollega, Kaffa, Hararge) and 17 settlements (Debra Berhan, Dessie, Hayk, Wuchale, Wurgesa, Woldya, Kuaram, Makale, Axum, Enda Selassie, Gondar, Debra Markos, Lekempti, Jimma, Harar, Alemaya and DireDawa)



		Utifelvételek, tájfelvételek autóról Addis Ababa és Dabra Barhan közötti utszakaszon, Az autó belseje, soffőr: Tesfaye Alemu, kísérők: Tsegaye Debalke, hangtechnikus: Tilahun Giref.	16 képs.	0-	559 b
		Tájfelvételek, Martin György, Tájfelvételek, Országút menti autóröncs, Az autó belseje, Megérkezés Dabra Barhanba, Kiszállás az autóból.			
1.	a.	Harci dal: "Sillala" és "Fukara"	2 ffi	24 képs. 1.sz.	31.5-
	b.				
	c.				
	d.				
2.	a.	Harci dal: "Sillala" és "Fukara"	1 ffi majd 2 ffi		44.5-
	b.				
3.		A táncot tapesal kísérő nézősereg			51.5-
3.		Általános shoa csoportos férfitánc: "Csefara" v. másképp "Dankira"	1 ffi táncol, a többi tapesal kíséri majd másik és harmadik ffi ugrik ki. végén fénybesz.		53-
4.	a.	Általános shoa csoportos férfitánc: "Csefara" v. "Dankira"	3 ffi, majd 2 ffi	3.sz.folyta- tása.	63.5-
	b.		1 ffi karddal		68-



Negotiation for Digitization

Started in 2014 following the invitation of Dr Woube Kassaye (a researcher of music) to Hungary.

According to Dr Janos Fugedi, however, the negotiation is currently discontinued due to unknown reasons.



Our research shows that the challenges are the following

Political:

According to Dr. Woube Ethiopia's current cultural policy is not as strong as it should be when it comes to dance and music

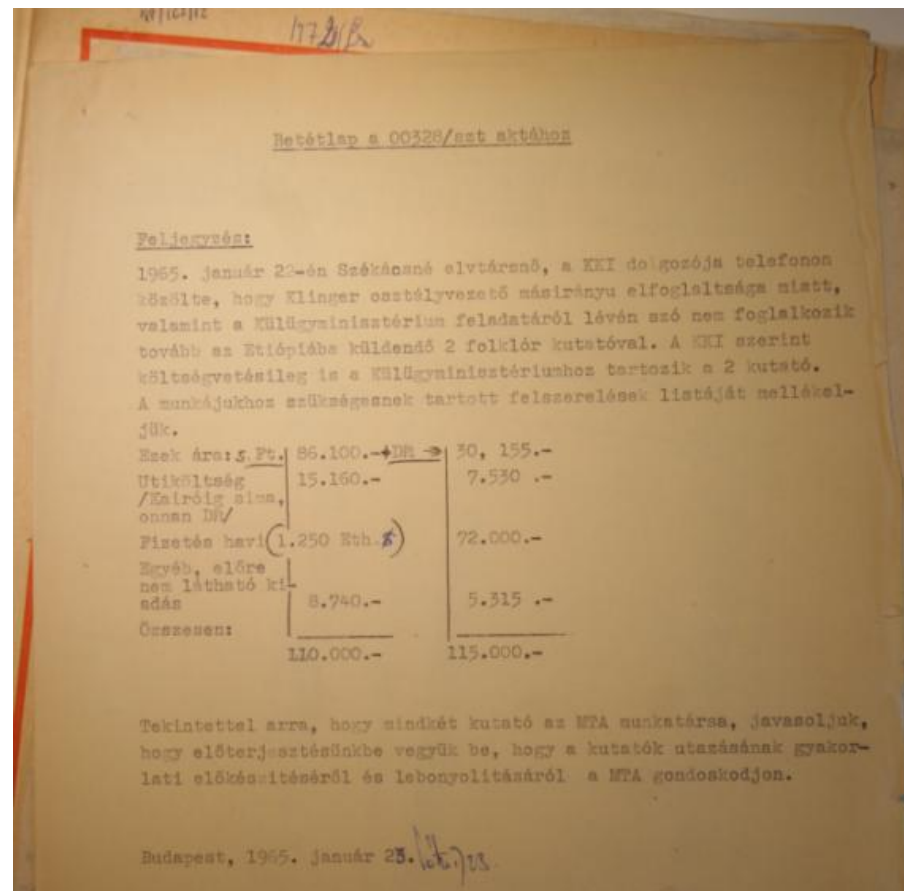
Economic:

Due to shortage of financial resources, the Hungarians want Ethiopia to pay for the digitization of the film materials

Ownership issue:

The negotiation, however, does not consider the fact that the films were documented through the labour and financial contributions of various governmental and non-governmental organization

This and other diplomatic letters states that, Hungary spent 775,000 DFT, and borrowed and equipment worth of 586,000 Dft. In addition to this, approximately 150-175,000 Dft was covered by Ethiopia



The practical challenges for our Organization

- The films are difficult to access, because they are heavily guarded by the archivists
- We cannot digitize them even if we locate our own resources.



If digitized

The materials can be used both as a background for;-

- Promoting ICH values,
- Research that, in turn, becomes part of the curriculum for students
- Creativity that, in turn, leads to the creative industries and creative economy, which are fundamental pillars of sustainable development



**Thank you for your
attention**

References

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